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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/905,095	07/13/2001	Thomas R. Corrigan	56226US.002	3540

7590 11/19/2002

Attention: Brian E. Szymanski  
Office of Intellectual Property Counsel  
3M Innovative Properties Company  
P.O. Box 33427  
St. Paul, MN 55133-3427

EXAMINER

VALENZA, JOSEPH E

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

3651

DATE MAILED: 11/19/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE**  
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APPLICATION NO./ CONTROL NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR / PATENT IN REEXAMINATION	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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EXAMINER
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ART UNIT	PAPER
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DATE MAILED:

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**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

See attached sheets

1. Claims 4-7, 10-17, 23-26, 29-33, 35-39, 41, 46 and 50 are withdrawn from further consideration pursuant to 37 CFR 1.142(b) as being drawn to a nonelected species, there being no allowable generic or linking claim. Election was made **without** traverse in Paper No. 5.

These claims were considered by applicant as not being readable on the elected species of figure 5B coupled with the drive in figure 6A and 6B.

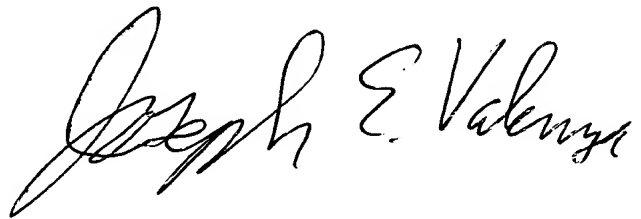
2. The reply filed on November 4, 2002 is not fully responsive to the prior Office Action because: None of the elected claims are readable on the elected specie. Claims 1 and 40 and their dependent claims all require that "the robotic arms are each configured to rotate ... continuously" (claim 1) or "providing continuous motion robotic system" (claim 40). The detailed description of figures 5 and 6 make it clear that the arms 202 are not linked and are independently driven as discussed in page 16 lines 30 and 31. Furthermore, both claims 1 and 40 require the robotic arms to be coaxially arranged relative to one another. Since the robotic arms in figure 5B are not connected to axis 212 and are not positioned on different planes along the axis, they are not coaxial relative to one another. Since the period for reply set forth in the prior Office action has expired, this application will become abandoned unless applicant corrects the deficiency and obtains an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136(a).

The date on which the petition under 37 CFR 1.136(a) and the appropriate extension fee have been filed is the date for purposes of determining the period of extension and the corresponding amount of the fee. In no case may an applicant reply outside the SIX (6) MONTH statutory period or obtain an extension for more than FIVE

Art Unit: 3651

(5) MONTHS beyond the date for reply set forth in an Office action. A fully responsive reply must be timely filed to avoid abandonment of this application.

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to Joseph E. Valenza at telephone number (703) 308-2577. Amendments may be faxed to 703-305-7687. My normal workweek is Monday through Thursday.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Joseph E. Valenza". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large initial "J".

JOSEPH E. VALENZA  
PRIMARY EXAMINER